



# PRESS RELEASE

## House National Security Committee

### Floyd D. Spence, Chairman

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
July 15, 1998

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#### **BIPARTISAN COMMISSION ON BALLISTIC MISSILE THREAT: “WAKE UP CALL FOR ALL AMERICANS”**

*Today, the bipartisan Commission to Assess the Ballistic Missile Threat to the United States submitted its report to Congress. The legislation creating the commission (Public Law 104-201) was authored by House National Security Committee Chairman Floyd Spence based on widespread concerns regarding the analytical rigor of the Administration's 1995 National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) and on the desire of Congress to have an authoritative independent review of the ballistic missile threat. Upon release of the report, Chairman Spence issued the following statement:*

“The commission's unanimous and bipartisan conclusions, indicate that both the intelligence community and policy-makers have underestimated and miscalculated the threat to the American public posed by ballistic missiles. I believe that the American people have been lulled into a false sense of security, and hope that the commission's report will send out a wake up call for all Americans. The missile threat is not 15 years away – it is here and now.

“The commission's findings also raise the disturbing reality that emerging ballistic missile threats will likely manifest themselves sooner than we think, leaving little time or ability for the United States to respond. The commission's work reinforces my views on the urgency of committing to the deployment of missile defenses to protect the American people as soon as possible, and hopefully before it is too late. I hope this report will prove to be a catalyst for a more bipartisan and aggressive effort on moving forward with a national missile defense to protect all Americans.”

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